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SPLENDID FLOW OBTAINED FROM NEW CITY WELL

250 GALLON PER MINUTE FLOW
IS BEING SECURED IT IS
ESTIMATED.

Will Solve City's Water Question

After a delay of a little time, the new well which was started some time ago by the city and put down to a depth of over 600 feet has been driven down to a greater depth and a flow of water was struck the first of the week which is estimated at about 250 gallons of water per minute. This amount of water from the new well and the water that is obtainable from the other wells will give the city a sufficient quantity of well water for all of its uses under normal conditions.

The new well has been driven to a depth of 775 feet and is over 600 feet deeper than any of the other city wells that were sunk by A. R. Purcell, Jackson contractor, when the city first attempted to secure its drinking water from deep wells.

The cost of the new well is small when it is compared with the cost of the average well put down by Purcell. The average of the Purcell wells is about 100 feet in depth, making an approximate cost for each well put down for the city about \$3,000. The cost of the new well put down by the city, under the direction of William E. Reynolds, city manager, to a depth of 775 feet or nearly eight times the average depth of the Purcell wells, is approximately the same as the cost of one of the Purcell wells, indicating that Manager Reynolds is saving the city a good sum of money by the city sunk well.

Not only is the cost of the well at eight times the depth, about the same as the average Purcell well, but the flow of water from this well is almost half of the total flow from all of the Purcell wells that the city could use.

The new well is now being tested out by the city officials and it is expected that it will very shortly be connected up with the other wells and the city pumping station.

MEET ST. JOHNS HERE IN DEBATE

LOCAL TRIO TO MEET CLINTON
COUNTY TEAM IN CONTEST
HERE FRIDAY.

Word was received just as The Record was going to press that St. Johns high debating team has forfeited Friday's debate on the closed shop question to Alma high, making five straight unanimous victories for the Alma team and assuring the locals of being in the state high school elimination finals for the state championship. With the five unanimous wins, as a forfeit counts as a unanimous decision, Alma has established a state record for unanimous wins.

Tomorrow afternoon at 1:30 o'clock the debate between St. Johns High and Alma High will be staged. The outcome of this debate will determine whether or not the Alma linguists will compete in the state finals. Prospects are good, however, for it is said that 17 points will qualify any team in the final series and the Alma team is already the possessor of 16 points. Nothing short of a unanimous decision for St. Johns can burst Alma's bubble. So far the Alma representatives have shown themselves to be among the best in the state, having won all four of their scheduled debates unanimously, a record which cannot be surpassed. The team, under the tutelage of Coach VanHoesen, has improved and strengthened its argument and is practically ready for the invasion from the rival school. Elliott Crooks, John Holmes and Dare Strong will, as usual, represent the local institution.

In this controversy Alma will uphold the affirmative side of the question "Resolved, that the principle of the Closed Shop in American Industry should receive the support of Public Opinion."

LEAVES FOR HOME
Mrs. Rosa Rodriguez, and her mother, Mrs. Simon Messinger, left for Boston last week for a short visit with Mrs. Grace Soule, after which they went to New York from which port Mrs. Rodriguez sailed for her home in Buenos Ayres, Argentina. From New York Mrs. Messinger returned to Boston to continue her visit with her daughter in that city.

Oratorical Contest In Alma Next Week

Next week Friday, March 3, the Michigan Intercollegiate Oratorical Contest will be held in this city, the women's contest being scheduled to be held in the afternoon and the men's contest in the evening.

This will be the first time in a decade that Alma College has been the host to the orators of the Michigan colleges, as each college is given the contest in turn. There are now eight colleges in the Michigan Oratorical League—Adrian, Albion, Alma, Hope, Hillsdale, Olivet and Kalamazoo colleges and Michigan State Normal.

The complete program of contestants, judges for the contests and the subjects of the orations will be given in next week's Record.

BAD FIRE HERE LAST SATURDAY

HOME OF EZRA EASTLICK AND
ITS CONTENTS LOST IN
THE FLAMES.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Eastlick, on South Moyer avenue, was entirely destroyed by flames at an early hour last Saturday morning, the flames reaching such proportions before being discovered that it was impossible for the family to save the contents of the home.

It is believed that the fire started on the roof which was blazing fiercely before the flames were discovered about 1:00 a. m., and had spread to other portions of the house. The heat and smoke from the fire was of such intensity that the family was forced to flee from the house as soon as awakened, and hindered any attempts to save the contents.

The fire department was summoned to the scene, but the flames had gained with such rapidity by that time that there was no opportunity to save the house, which burned to the foundations.

The loss to the house is estimated by Chief Sartor at about \$1,500. In addition is the loss of the furniture in the home and considerable wearing apparel.

Seek Hupmobile Dealer in Alma

R. H. Williams, president of Williams & Hastings, Inc., of Detroit, Hupmobile distributors for Michigan, believes that this territory is particularly rich in prospective Hupmobile owners, and is looking for good dealer representation here in order to supply the strong potential demand for the Hupmobile that he is confident exists. Mr. Williams is interested in hearing from any sound business man. It is expected that those now interested in the automobile business will be most interested in representing the Hupmobile, but it is also realized that the most important qualities the dealer can have are enterprise, or ability to get the business, and business experience and standing.

"The Hupmobile has always been regarded, and actually is, a fine car, but the feature that differentiates it most from other fine cars is its remarkably low price," said Mr. Williams, discussing the local Hupmobile demand.

"The Hupmobile is so low priced as to be within the reach of almost any family that can afford any kind of a motor car, yet its mechanical excellence is such that it appeals to all those who can afford far higher priced cars.

"Its sales range is thus practically as wide as the automobile market, while the car's dogged pulling power on country roads, its brilliant performance under all conditions, its long life, and its amazingly low cost of upkeep and repair, recommend it powerfully to all sections of the country. There is certainly a large potential demand for the Hupmobile in this community, and we intend to satisfy it."

New Michigan Record Set by M. A. C. Cow

Breaking the state record for milk production at her age, Pauline Colanthe Payne, No. 460,895, a two-year-old Holstein cow, has just finished a year's mark of 19,884.6 pounds of milk, at the Michigan Agricultural College. Pauline's effort tops the old record for junior two-year olds by more than 400 pounds.

Born and bred at M. A. C., the new record holder is an All-Michigan product. The former state record for the class was held by a cow owned by the Embalgard Dairy, at Marquette, and stood at 19,478 pounds of milk. The year's butter fat total for the new champion is 606.29 pounds.

Can you beat it? 9x12 Rugs priced at \$9.75 and up—on display at D. W. Robinson's, Alma.—advertisement

LINTON GAVE GOOD ADDRESS ON WEDNESDAY

MEMBER OF STATE TAX COM-
MISSION TELLS OF PRO-
BLEMS OF THE BOARDS.

Searl Spoke On Washington

The Chamber of Commerce luncheon at city hall Wednesday noon again drew out over a hundred business men of the city, who gave close attention, not only to the fine dinner, but also to the Washington's birthday address by Attorney Kelly S. Searl of St. Johns, the address on the problems of taxation given by the Hon. William S. Linton of the Board of State Tax Commissioners, and the talk on "Fact" by Dr. Maynard Pringle. Ralph B. Wagner was chairman of the meeting.

Dr. Pringle was the first speaker, and in his talk he urged that when pessimists and knockers start that the business men and others who are interested in the city should just ask, "Who told you so?" He predicted that such a measure would stop rumors.

This talk prompted Mr. Wagner to announce that there was another bright prospect in Alma's industrial life as Mr. Maxwell with a pending contract with the Paige Motor Company of Detroit for 189 of his Maxwell bodies, is closing arrangements with the Western Carburetor Company, and is moving his plant to that factory from its present location at the foot of State street. The announcement was received with rounds of applause, the business men realizing the value of the Maxwell body that has been invented by the Alma man, and the possibilities that it offers.

C. V. Calkins announced that a committee had been appointed at Mt. Pleasant to meet with a committee here Saturday relative to a golf course between the two cities, which are nearly twenty miles apart. It is to be hoped that if the construction of a golf course is decided upon it can be built close to Alma, as it would probably draw memberships also from St. Louis and Ithaca.

Mr. Wagner then announced that Judge Quinn of Newberry would be the speaker at the Chamber of Commerce meeting next week Tuesday.

Judge Kelly S. Searl, as Gratiot people still fondly call the former judge of this circuit, speaking on Washington said that his life was typical of that of the many strong men of the early period of the nation, and that the greater number of the men who had aided Washington in the formation of the government were young men in their twenties and thirties. He urged that the young men of today devote more attention to the affairs of their government. He spoke of the apparent disregard for law and order at the present time, and urged that all laws be upheld, as the violation of even the local ordinances serves to breed contempt for all laws.

William S. Linton in opening his address called attention to the big problem of levying taxes justly in all sections of the state, and to the fact that it is the duty of every individual to contribute his just share of the running expenses of his government. He called attention to the method of some years ago when supervisors attempted to keep down their respective assessments and how the assessments varied in various sections of the state from 30 to 80 per cent of the cash value.

He then called attention to the provision in the constitution adopted in 1909, which provides for assessment at true cash values and the work of the State Board of Tax Commissioners in securing such cash values in all sections of the state, in the country, in the city, by the use of experts in various lines.

He called attention to the assessments in Wayne county, which make up 41 per cent of the state tax, and (Continued on page two)

INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEE

An industrial committee of the Alma Chamber of Commerce has been authorized by the organization. The committee is to be selected by Ralph B. Wagner, manager of the Gratiot County Gas Company, who will head the committee. Mr. Wagner expects to take some days in the selection of his committee, having every desire to select as good talent as possible for the committee, which will be an important one.

It is understood that the committee will have one or two matters to consider as soon as it has been completed by the chairman, although the nature of these matters is being withheld for the present.

A Bad Fire at Breckenridge

Mrs. Flora McCall, aged 78 years, mother of Mrs. A. F. Crawford, Wendell McCall, a nephew, and Mrs. Crawford's son, Robert, were badly burned late Saturday afternoon, when flames destroyed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred F. Crawford at Breckenridge.

It is believed that a gasoline explosion in the kitchen of the Crawford home caused the fire, which spread with such rapidity that it was with difficulty that Mrs. McCall, Wendell McCall and Robert Crawford were able to escape. Robert was working with some gasoline at the time of the fire and was very badly burned, about the hands. His grandmother, Mrs. McCall, was even more seriously burned, and because of her advanced age fears are entertained for her recovery. Wendell McCall was burned about the face and hands, which were also badly cut from glass, when he crashed through a door in getting his grandmother to safety.

The home of Marshall Hopkins next door was also badly damaged by flames. The damage to the Hopkins home is placed at \$1,000, but the damage to the Crawford home is expected to reach \$10,000.

The St. Louis fire department was called to the scene, but the fire at the Crawford home had assumed such proportions by that time that nothing could be done to save it and the department devoted its attention to saving the Hopkins home.—A.C.

SENIOR CLASS TO GIVE PLAY

"STOP THIEF" TO BE PRESENTED
IN HIGH SCHOOL AUDI-
TIUM FRIDAY.

Tomorrow evening at 8:15 o'clock the curtain will be raised on the much-touted play, "Stop Thief," to be presented by the Senior class of the high school. Advance reports would have it "the greatest and most stupendous amateur production as yet staged in this city" and "America's greatest laugh-provoking comedy." At any rate the cast and its director have been hard at work and the play does promise to be one of the best plays yet produced by an Alma high school graduating class.

The play is strictly a farce comedy and the audience may be assured that they will not be forced to sit through a problem play poorly acted and portrayed by a group of inexperienced actors. The setting of the play is the home of Mr. Carr, where his daughter and a certain young man are going to be married. The wedding gifts and certain of the family valuables disappear. Two kleptomaniacs, Mr. Carr and the bridegroom, blame themselves. The real cause for the mysterious disappearance of these valuables is a burglar, who passes himself as a detective who has been sent to guard these self-same treasures. In order to straighten this tangle you must see the play.

The cast is under the able direction of Miss Elizabeth Wells. Following is the cast of characters:

Joan Carr—Janet Patterson.
Mrs. Carr—Doris Slingluff.
Caroline Carr—Margaret Lutz.
Madge Carr—Lois Smith.
Nell—Lell Smith.
William Carr—Dore Strong.
James Cloney—Gerald Smith.
Mr. Jamison—Leo Emons.
Dr. Willoughby—Ellary Ingersoll.
Rev. Mr. Spelan—William Creaser.
Jack Doogan—Phil Lewis.
Joe Thompson—Jack Rockwell.
Sergeant of Police—John Holmes, and 3 police officers.

Short Course Open at M. A. C.

A two weeks course for ice cream makers, to open on March 6; and a four weeks' course in truck and tractor operation, to begin on March 6 also, are the last of a long list of special winter courses in agriculture given under the direction of the Short Course department at the Michigan Agricultural College this winter.

Nearly 100 farmers and others from all parts of the state are expected to register for the tractor course, which is the fourth and last of a series of similar courses given at the college this year. Interest in operation of gasoline machinery on the farm is on the increase in Michigan, and the "truck" courses are drawing heavy enrollment.

Most of the entrants for the ice cream makers course will represent different creameries and ice cream manufacturers of the state. The work of this course is of a practical nature, actual processes of manufacture being gone through by the class.

New Spring Dresses in Taffeta and Canton Crepes—wonderful values at \$16.95 and 25.00—on display at D. W. Robinson's, Alma.—advertisement

SHOULD SECURE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE SOON

CERTIFICATE OF TITLE LAW
WILL GO INTO EFFECT IN
STATE ON JULY 1.

Is Important To Auto Owners

There are approximately in the State of Michigan over five hundred thousand automobiles. The Certificate of Title Law enacted by the Legislature of 1921 was given effect July 1, 1921, and as directed by the Law, the Department of State mailed to every owner of an automobile in the State of Michigan, an application blank to be filled out and returned to Lansing with a fee of one dollar.

In spite of a continuous publicity campaign and the fullest cooperation from the Branch Managers, the Secretary of State has received applications for only two hundred twenty-seven thousand titles, to date.

On July 1, 1922, the Law goes into full effect and will be enforced and it will be impossible for an owner of an automobile to secure a license for his car unless he can show title for same. It will be against the law for anyone to drive his car after July 1, without a Certificate of Title.

Do not wait until the last minute to send in the application. If this is done it will mean delay as all applications must be checked, corrected and indexed before titles can be issued. Owners should have the certificate of title in their possession before July 1.

All necessary blanks and information in regard to the certificate of title law can be secured from the branch office in Alma, which is conducted by Sharrar & Watson.

There are many automobile owners in Gratiot County who have not yet secured their certificates of title, which they should have before the law goes into effect. They should take steps within the next few weeks to secure them.

Facts Regarding The Income Tax

The new requirement of the income tax law that returns shall be made of gross income of \$5,000 or more regardless of the amount of net income upon which the tax is assessed, necessitates careful computation on the part of the taxpayer. "Gross income" includes practically every dollar received by the taxpayer during the year 1921 in salaries, wages, commissions, rents, royalties, interest on bank deposits, cash dividends on stock, or income from any source whatsoever. "Net income" is gross income less certain deductions provided for by the act, including all business expenses incurred in the conduct of a business, trade, profession, or vocation.

Certain expenditures, however, are not deductible as a business expense when made for the purchase of articles, more or less permanent in character, or for permanent improvement of property. For example, a merchant would not be allowed to deduct the amount expended in the erection of a new store, or a farmer the cost of a new tractor or thrashing machine, since such investments are held to be capital investments. The law expressly prohibits the deduction of family or living expenses, such as rent for a dwelling, repairs to a dwelling, cost of food and clothing for the family, education of children, servant's wages, and similar items. Amounts spent during the year 1921 for any of these items are not deductible.

Horticulturists To Stage Meeting

The annual mid-winter meeting of the Michigan State Horticultural Society will be held at Coloma, near Benton Harbor, on March 1, 2 and 3, according to announcement of T. A. Farrand, of East Lansing, secretary of the society.

The large amount of subjects to be covered this year in discussion and lecture led to the scheduling of three days for the conference, instead of two as has been the custom in the past.

Practical fruit growers from different parts of the state, specialists from the agricultural college, the state department of agriculture, and the state farm bureau will find places on the conference program.

New Spring Coats for Ladies' and Misses priced at \$17.50 and \$24.95, on display at D. W. Robinson's, Alma.—advertisement

What is The Foolish Age?—advertisement

Not As Bad As Pessimist Thinks

That times are not as bad as the dyed-in-the-wool pessimist would have one believe, are evident from the optimistic spirit around the Niles Motor Sales Company's salesrooms these days.

The Niles Motor Sales Company unloaded a carload of Fordson tractors here Saturday and by Tuesday night four of them had been delivered to farmers in this vicinity. It looks like a real ray of light in the dark cloud that the pessimists have been rolling up in their efforts to tell just where business has gone.

The Niles Motor Sales Company is not only enjoying a healthy business with its tractors, but is also receiving a large number of orders for Ford Cars.

WOODWARD MAKES GOOD IN EAST

FORMER ALMA BOY NOW GEN-
ERAL PASSENGER AGENT
OF A RAILROAD.

Peter H. Woodward, who spent his boyhood days in St. Louis and Alma, receiving his education in the public and commercial schools of the two cities, and whose father, M. J. Woodward, still lives in this vicinity, is making good in the world judging from the following article taken from the Information Bulletin of the Long Island Railroad, for which Woodward is general passenger agent.

"Mr. Woodward was born at Allegan, Michigan, November 28, 1873, and was educated in public and commercial schools in Alma and St. Louis, Michigan.

"His first railroad position was with the Flint & Pere Marquette Railroad at Saginaw, Mich., entering the Car Record Office of that railroad as stenographer and clerk on November 1, 1890. A year later he was transferred to the office of the general superintendent of the same road, acting in various clerical capacities until March 20th, 1897.

On March 20th, 1897, a few months after Mr. W. H. Baldwin, Jr., and Mr. W. E. Potter, were called to the Long Island Railroad, the latter directly from the Pere Marquette, the former as president and the latter as general superintendent, Mr. Woodward came east also and acted as clerk and chief clerk to the general superintendent until May 1, 1903, when he was appointed superintendent of the Long Island Express, in charge of express, baggage, and mail traffic on the Long Island System.

"On February 1, 1905, when Mr. W. E. Potter became president of the Long Island Railroad Company, following the death of Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Woodward was appointed secretary to the president, remaining as such during the fifteen years that Mr. Ralph Peters has been president and general manager and federal manager. On March 1st, 1920, he was appointed as general passenger agent.

"Mr. Woodward is chairman of the committee of management of the Long Island Railroad Employees Mutual Relief Association, and chairman of the schedule committee. He is a director and officer in several subsidiary lines owned and operated by the Long Island Railroad. He is an honorary member of the Long Island Press Association; a member of the Long Island Hotel Men's Association, Long Island Real Estate Board, also of the Jamaica Board of Trade, the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, Chamber of Commerce of the Borough of Queens, Chamber of Commerce of the United States, a member of the Community Association of Bay Shore, and the Michigan Society of New York."

Mr. Woodward, the former Alma boy, who has met with such success in the east, not only has a father living in Gratiot county, his boyhood home, but also other relatives. Mrs. Gus Herron of this city is also a near relative.

Sunday Evening Pageant Good One

The pageant entitled "The American Home" and given in the Presbyterian church last Sunday evening was enjoyed by a capacity congregation. About fifty young people were employed in the various scenes. They and the committee who assisted in drilling them are to be heartily commended for their effort. The message of the pageant was one sorely needed by our present generation.

Next Wednesday evening all the young people who participated are to meet at the Presbyterian Manse for supper and an evening of fun.

New Spring Wool Canton Crepe Stripe Skirtings—Poiret Twills, Taffetas, Satins and Georgette Crepes—on display Piece Goods Dept. D. W. Robinson, Alma.—advertisement

ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE STAGED TUESDAY EVENING

MEMBERS OF CHAMBER OF COM-
MERCE WILL MEET IN HIGH
SCHOOL AUDITORIUM.

To Elect Six New Directors

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Alma Chamber of Commerce will be held at the Alma High School auditorium next Tuesday evening, February 28, and it is expected that the first annual meeting of the organization will be attended by a large number of the many members, as the annual session of the Chamber of Commerce, like any organization, is an important one.

Six of the twelve directors chosen by the organization last year were elected for terms of one year, and these terms expire with the yearly meeting and successors to the six men are to be elected by the membership of the organization. The importance of good directors, if the good work of the organization is to continue, is of vital importance to the organization and the membership should avail itself of the opportunity to decide on the matter.

The retiring members of the directorate, who have functioned well on the board during the past year, are Jotham Allen, William W. Cushing, William A. Bahlke, A. E. Davies, G. V. Wright and Charles O. Ward.

It is expected that following the election of the six new directors for two year terms, the board will meet and elect officers for the following year.

The meeting will be called to order at 7:30 o'clock Tuesday evening.

One of the early acts of the new board of directors is expected to be the selection of a new secretary of the organization to succeed H. E. Reece, who resigned some days ago because of other matters which are to claim his attention.

DRY CLEANING ESTABLISHMENT

CITY DRY CLEANERS HAVE COM-
PLETED INSTALLATION OF
THEIR NEW PLANT.

"The Alma City Dry Cleaners have completed the installation of their modern dry cleaning plant, which was put into active use this week by this bustling Alma firm.

To the rear of the building, which is occupied by the firm on East Superior street, a small brick building was erected in which the dry cleaning works are located. Modern machinery for the purpose, all purchased new, has been secured and installed. This includes a deodorizer, an extractor, a white-goods and silk washer and a large washer for other goods. Four large tanks, underground, contain the gasoline used there. Two of the tanks contain 180 gallons each and two 120 gallons each. A clarifier keeps the gasoline clean.

The establishment is one of the most modern dry cleaning establishments in this part of the state and is the only works of the kind in the county. The dry cleaners went to a large expense to put in the modern machinery needed for such a business but the firm has full faith in the future of Alma, and feels that the venture cannot be other than a success.

BAD SLEET STORM

A bad sleet storm Tuesday night and all day Wednesday did a great amount of damage to trees, telegraph and telephone wires in this part of the state. It also caused trains to run far behind their scheduled time. In Alma many beautiful shade trees were broken down and in many other cases large limbs were broken off. The creek or open drain from the north end of the city through to the river overflowed its banks badly from the rush of water, flowing over Superior and adjacent streets in its immediate vicinity causing considerable inconvenience to traffic.

AT SALVATION ARMY HALL

Adj. and Mrs. Roy Marshall from Grand Rapids are coming this Saturday and Sunday to the Salvation army. A cordial invitation is extended to every one to attend these meetings. Adj. Marshall is a wonderful cornetist, and they are both splendid singers. If you attend you will not be disappointed, and you will feel your reward for attending.

What is The Foolish Age?—advertisement